



# Motor City Beemers



## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

April 2010

Volume 18, Number 4

All meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10:30 AM.

Next Meeting: April 10, 2010, 10:30AM at BMW of Detroit

Following Meeting: May 8, 2010 at BMW of Detroit

Web site: [www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)

President	John Saarinen	Jsaarinen@peoplepc.com
1st Vice President	Jerry Pokorski	Pokorskij@Yahoo.com
2nd Vice President	Tim Perry	tpbeemer@gmail.com
Treasurer	Allen Gigliotti	giglio@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Dave Cronberger	crownmountain@gmail.com
Web Master	Ives R. Potrafka	ives@bizblvd.net

### THE PREZ SEZ

The riding season is upon us and things are taking off pretty fast. We had the first lunch ride of the season and there are many more great ones to come. I took my bike in for service to make sure the bike and I are ready when the weather turns too good to be riding in a car.

This past winter the activities didn't stop even though the weather stopped the riding. The mid-winter dinner was well attended and everyone I talked to had a great time. The dinner rides on Wednesday evenings organized by Betty Ward have been a success story. They have been well attended even during the cold snowy winter. The attendance at our club meetings has remained high all winter and we expect it to pick up when the weather turns nice. Come on out and join in. This is your club; enjoy the group and the experiences. Participate and help make it everything you want it to be!

Ride Safe,

John Saarinen

## **CLUB BYLAWS**

Thanks to some leg work by Jerry Pokorski we have found some of our recorded history and our bylaws.

### **By-Laws of the Motor City Beemers Motorcycle Club**

**Article 1)** The Organization shall be known as the Motor City Beemers

**Article 2)** The purpose of the organization shall be to pursue, promote, and protect the interests of BMW motorcyclists. To develop better and more enthusiastic relations with the general public and the operators and riders of all motorcycles.

**Article 3)** The officers of the organization shall be a president, vice-president, treasurer, and recording secretary.

The duties of the president shall be:

- To preside at all meetings of the organization
- To have general supervision of the affairs of the organization
- To appoint any person of committee not otherwise ordered by the organization
- To personally represent the organization on proper occasions and business contacts
- To assist all other officers of the organization with their duties.

The duties of the Vice-president shall be:

- To assist the president with his duties and preside in the presidents absence.

The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- To collect dues from all members.
- To collect all other money due the organization.
- To maintain organization financial records and deliver reports.
- To pay financial obligations on a timely basis.

The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be:

- To keep a record of the meetings of the organization.
- To send out notices of regular or special meetings.
- To handle all organization correspondence.
- Oversee the publication of the monthly newsletter.
- To perform such other duties as generally fall to that office.

The immediate past president shall serve as an advisor to the executive board.

**Article 4)** The nomination of club officers will be held at the regular club meeting in November. Nominations may be made from members in attendance or if not in attendance, members may make a nomination in writing to the person selected to act as nomination chairperson. Written nominations must be presented to the nomination chair prior to the start of the November meeting. Ballots will be mailed and must be returned to the nomination chair prior to the start of the December meeting. Ballots will be opened and tabulated by the officers at the December meeting under "New Business" and will be done so under the supervision of the membership in attendance. Candidates receiving the highest number of votes

shall be elected to terms of office lasting one (1) year. Terms shall start and end under "New Business" at the January meeting.

- Article 5)** The club shall be operated by majority vote of the membership at regular meetings. All members in good standing shall have one (1) equal vote. All issues voted on must pass by at least 51%. Club officer shall act as the management and administration of the club and represent the club at formal functions.
- Article 6)** Membership is open to all persons interested in furthering the purpose of this organization. All members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the organization. Failure to do so could be subject to dismissal. Violations will be handled by vote of the membership at the recommendation of the club officers.
- Article 7)** Annual dues of \$10.00 for a single membership shall be for the calendar year from January to January. All dues to be collected by January 31 of each year. Unpaid members shall not have a vote at meetings and no other club benefits until such time as dues are paid.
- Article 8)** Regular meetings shall be held the first Saturday of each month unless otherwise rescheduled for Holidays and other special occasions. Changes shall be noted in the club newsletter before the meeting date.
- Article 9)** Any amendment or proposal to change the By-laws shall be submitted to the president, be published in the newsletter and be discussed at a regular meeting before a vote is called.
- Article 10)** In the event of dissolution of the Motor City Beemers, all funds in the treasury will be donated to a charity selected by the majority vote of the remaining membership of the club.

## **CLUB EVENTS**

### **ADDITIONAL CLUB AWARDS**

Two additional Bent Beemer Awards were handed out at the March 13th meeting.

Ken Mitchell - "Don't Park in the Dark" this has become an annual award on the color tour. Ken unceremoniously dropped his bike in the wee hours of the morning while we were getting ready to depart from the cabins. He got a secondary award for his GPS "Lucy", for adding adventure to every long trip I've taken with Ken.

Betty Ward - "U Turns Are Us - Curbs Too!" for having that lapse of concentration while practicing low speed maneuvers. She is one of the best riders I've ever met and she is always practicing her skills. She was at the Mid Winter Dinner and let this little incident slip out.

We are always looking out for the next Bent Beemer Nominee. Please congratulate this year's award winners. Remember to keep these in the spirit in which they are intended; to poke fun at ourselves and to add to the camaraderie. Remember; to have something happen when you are riding...first you must ride. All of our winners this year do ride!

### **PICNIC**

September 18th	Annual Summer Picnic - Details to be announced	*
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## Club Rides

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lunch Ride Location</b>	<b>Ride Leader</b>
April 10th	Dave Cronberger will be giving a presentaion on the eGroup and our web site, assisted by Ives...  Ride Location (weather permitting) South Lyon Hotel ( <a href="#">click here for map</a> )	<a href="#">Ives Potrafka</a>
May 8th	Junction Buoy, 1415 River Road, Marysville, MI 810-364-5730	<a href="#">Rhys Blair</a>
June 12th	Ride TBA	*
June 19th	Annual Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner Ride	*
July 10th	Zukey Lake Tavern	<a href="#">Maury Feueman</a>
July 15th - 18th	BMW MOA National Rally - Redmond, Oregon <a href="http://www.bmwmoa.org">http://www.bmwmoa.org</a>	
July 29 – August 1	BMW RA National Rally <a href="http://www.bmwra.org">http://www.bmwra.org</a>	
August 14th	Ride TBA	*
September 11th	All You Can Eat Walleye - Peck, Michigan	* <a href="#">Jim Mich</a>
October 9th	Ride TBA	*
October 16th & 17th	Annual Color Tour Ride to Leggs Inn - 2 day ride - Details TBA	Ken Mitchell Ives Potrafka
November 13th	Ride TBA	
December 11th	Polar Bear Ride - Weather Permitting	Dick Hautau

## CLUB RIDE GUIDELINES

Our first concern when riding is Safety! We want everyone to have fun, but we want our members to be safe as possible so we can repeat the experience as often as possible.

Keeping with this theme we have included a link to the Group Riding and Hand Signal flyer from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation. Please take the time to read this:

[http://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/Group\\_Ride.pdf](http://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/Group_Ride.pdf) (Ed.Note: because of copyrights I cannot place the actual Group Riding flyer in the news letter.)

- This year, the MCBeemers will follow those guidelines as well as the following:
  - All rides will be broken into groups of four riders or less.
  - Groups will maintain a 300 yard distance between each other.
  - Riders should learn and use hand signals.
  - Riders will wait at the last corner (turn) if the rider behind you in your group is not visible.

- Ride Planners will post directions and maps to our eGroup when possible and we will also try to post them on the web site one week before the scheduled ride. Send to Ives [ives@bizblvd.net](mailto:ives@bizblvd.net) to post or give him a call at 248-207-1575.
- Ride Planners should determine the “dinner” time so it can be posted in advance.
- Ride Planners will assure each group has a leader who knows the ride route.
- Bring copies of the route to pass out to the leaders.
- GPS routes will be available on the eGroup when possible.

We came to these decisions based on some incidents that occurred last year.

### **NEWS FROM THE BEEMERSHIP**

BMW of Detroit Open House, 10:00AM to 4:00PM, Saturday, April 24th, 2010 Come on out to the BMW of Detroit Open House. It is at the dealership. They are providing food, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and demo's. Drop in and visit for a while. Take a ride and your dream bike. Sit around and eat some food, win a door prize, and then take home the 50/50 prize (now that is a dream!). Can't win if you don't come on out.

### **ONCE UPON A TIME**

The following article was published in the February 1994 newsletter after the International Motorcycle Show at the Silverdome.

“Harley Owner Wannabes Cast a Weary Eye Towards BMW

Reliable sources reported that several would-be Harley owners stopped by the BMW display disgusted that H-D brass decided to ship more bikes to the lucrative European market. Since Harley only makes so many Milwaukee vibrators each year, US dealer allotments for the choicer hogs will be reduced by 10 -12% for the first six months of 1994.

As a result, some unfortunate folks who put down a deposit last year for this year's model have been bumped off the list in favor their brethren across the pond. Some of these people can be expected to step up, er, over, to the BMW tent. We issue a hearty welcome to these converts, even if their motives are less than 100% pure (*BMW as a **second** choice?!?! --ed.*)”

### **Other News**

#### **News Letter Password Protected or Not...You Decide**

We would like to have a discussion at the April 10th meeting as to whether or not we continue to password protect the news letter. Please come on out and listen to the points of view and then we will vote on a motion to move the news letter outside of the password protected area of our website.

#### **Pictures for Activity Board**

We are requesting pictures for our activity board which is on display at the dealership. If you made a trip, had a funny thing happen, want recognition for an accomplishment, or just have pictures from one of our activities, bring in some pictures. We would prefer 3X5 or 4X6, or similar. We will need some type of an explanation of where you were or what you were doing to post above, below, or on the picture. Please bring them to the April 10th meeting. We appreciate your assistance in updating this board. The whole idea is to give credit where credit is due and attract people to our club by showing them some of the riding opportunities

they can have by joining in. The pictures can be returned next year when we update the board so put your name on the back if you want them returned. So get out those pictures and bring them in, help make this club everything you want it to be.

## Rides

### MARCH 13TH CLUB RIDE TO BISTRO 1882 - PORT HORON

The March meeting was well attended. We presented Bent Beemer Awards to 2 members and then enjoyed an interesting presentation by Jim and Amy Kraus' of Alpha Training Center (BRC and ERC). They explained what we could improve our cornering technique (and thus be safer riders) by taking their class. We had 3 bikes show up for the post meeting ride. As the rain picked up only Ken Mitchell and I hit the road. To simplify the ride we followed 16 Mile east to Jefferson and headed north. The rain increased and the wind drove the rain at us. There was still plenty of ice packed along the shore line as we followed the river with occasional ice flows coming down the middle. About half way there I noticed that wet feeling in the center of my chest. It ran down and settled in my pants. Later the pants acted as a funnel and filled my boots to the brim.

Arriving at the Bistro 1882 (or was it 1884?) we removed our gear. I discovered I had forgotten to snap closed the rain fly for the jacket zipper. Left my rain pants on to keep their seats from getting wet from my wet seat. We enjoyed a nice leisurely meal being in no hurry to get back out into the storm (so to speak). The food was good as usual and the staff friendly. They provided some plastic bags to help keep some of my stuff from getting any wetter.

Since both of us live north of the city we rode west on I-69. I split off at Van Dyke to head south and watched Ken disappear into the haze. Upon getting home I got out of my wet gear and realized I had a great ride, great meal, and great riding partner! Life doesn't get much better than this!

## Training

### Garmin MapSource for Bikers Class

By Maury Feuerman

**On March 13<sup>th</sup> John Fishbeck hosted a terrific class that was specifically targeted to teaching MapSource for bikers.**

Although John is professionally an Information Technologist at Michigan State University he will tell you that he has always had a lifelong fascination with maps & navigation. In truth he is a 30 year computer professional with extensive experience with navigation in aviation, marine and vehicular application and a BMW enthusiast who is also the Sec/Treasurer of the BMW Touring Club of Detroit.

After taking his course I can personally tell you that he is also an excellent teacher that is easy to understand. During the three hour course John breaks down MapSource by providing a fundamental understanding of how to navigate around the program. He starts off with a very basic understanding of how maps work and the importance of having the same maps properly loaded in MapSource and your GPS device. He spends most of the class time on the essential 5 MapSource tools. As a novice I walked away with the ability to work with tracks, waypoints and routes and to effortlessly design and save custom routes that are as portable as possible to give to other GPS users.

The class that I attended had about 30 participants and at least half a dozen were from our club. **John is holding a second class Thursday April 22, 6 PM – 8:55 PM.** You can enroll

online at [WCC Motorcycling & Automotive](#) - scroll down the page to 'MapSource for Bikers: Take a Look', then click the 'Add to Cart' button for the class you want and follow the prompts.

For more information Visit URL:

<http://www.wccnet.edu/about-us/visiting/driving-directions/>

In addition John has made a wealth of information available free on his website at:

<https://www.msu.edu/~fishbeck/GPSClassStuff/>

Things you should know if you plan on attending the April 22 class:

1. There is a nominal \$15 charge to attend the class, (well worth it!)
2. Get there early, people bring notebooks, GPS Devices etc and setup takes some time (You really need about 30 minutes to get situated)
3. The course is not really about your GPS device you don't need to bring it!
4. If bringing a notebook bring an extension cord with several outlets.
5. Register now as there are far more people who want to take this class than they can accommodate.

### GROUP RIDING

Anotehr link for hand signals. <http://www.ama-cycle.org/roadride/groupridesignals.asp>  
(Ed.Note: because of copyrights I cannot place the actual Group Riding flyer in the news letter.)

Training classes at Alpha Training Center: <http://www.alphatrainingcenter.com/ARC.php>

### MOTOR CITY BEEMERS NAME TAGS

Motor City Beemer name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc. Highest Honor, Inc is located at 34711 Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083. Their shop is just south of 15 Mile Road, on the west side of Dequindre. Herb and Jeff have a die set up with the club logo and can add your name and/or nickname for a cost of only \$8.00.

The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff an e-mail at: [www.jeff@highesthonor.biz](mailto:www.jeff@highesthonor.biz). Spell out exactly what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up. You can also call Jeff at 248-588-7845. Tell him what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up. You can have two lines of text, the first your name, and you can add a nick name as the second.

Join the growing number of members who wear their ID tags proudly with their one of a kind moniker. It will help us to get to know each other. Works a lot better than "Hey you!"

## **FOR SALE:**

### **CYCLOAK GX Sport Series 2 Jacket**

Blue/white/black 600 denier Carbolex® shell incorporates 1680 denier ballistic polyester elbow, shoulder and back impact panels •

- ✓ Rainguard waterproof and breathable barrier 100% waterproof
  - Waterproof zippered chest vents, sleeve vents & rear exhaust vents for flow-through ventilation
- ✓ Padded collarbone and back panels for additional protection
- ✓ Adjustable sleeve take-up straps at the forearm and bicep to fine tune the fit ☒
- ✓ Phoslite® reflective piping ☒
- ✓ Zippered and gusseted sleeve cuff for ease of dressing ☒
- ✓ Removable, CE approved armor at the elbow and shoulder and back ☒
- ✓ Two vertical waterproof zippered chest map pockets two hand warmer pockets, many inside pockets including cell phone •
- ✓ Zip-Out full sleeve quilted Liner
- ✓ 100g polyfill insulation with many pockets ☒
- ✓ Adjustable waist belts to fine tune fit ☒

Photos available at [www.helmethouse.com](http://www.helmethouse.com) (Cortech then textile jackets)

1 year old and in very good condition

Size: Medium - jacket size runs big. I'm 5' 10" and 175lbs. I normally take a large and this medium fits me perfectly.

New price: \$199.99 first \$80 takes it!

[petelentini@yahoo.com](mailto:petelentini@yahoo.com) ph: 586.978.3956

### **Highway Pegs**

Spring Loaded Highway Pegs for your R1200RT or your K1200LT.

Look at [www.ridingiswonderful.com](http://www.ridingiswonderful.com) to find information.

### **2007 URAL W/SIDECAR - \$8000.00**

6000 Kilometers, 1st Owner, Dealer Serviced, Custom handlebars for rider comfort, Auxiliary light on sidecar. Photos upon request.

Contact: Ives Potrafka at: [ives@bizblvd.net](mailto:ives@bizblvd.net) / 248-207-1575

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